

Amendments to the Claims

1-20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) A method for treating asthma comprising administering an effective amount of hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof to a human, wherein the HGF comprises SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2, and wherein the HGF is effective in suppressing airway inflammation.

22. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein the HGF comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.

23. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein the HGF comprises SEQ ID NO: 2.

24. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein the HGF is administered intravenously at a dose of about 250 to 1000 $\mu\text{g/Kg/day}$.

25. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein the HGF or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof and a physiologically acceptable carrier are administered.

26. (New) A method for suppressing an inflammation reaction in bronchial asthma comprising administering an effective amount of hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof to a human, wherein the HGF comprises SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2, and wherein the HGF is effective in suppressing the inflammation reaction in bronchial asthma.

27. (New) The method according to claim 26, wherein the HGF comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.

28. (New) The method according to claim 26, wherein the HGF comprises SEQ ID NO: 2.

29. (New) The method according to claim 26, wherein the HGF is administered intravenously at a dose of about 250 to 1000 $\mu\text{g/Kg/day}$.

30. (New) The method according to claim 26, wherein the HGF or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof and a physiologically acceptable carrier are administered.